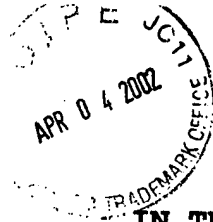


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4/12/02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: De Keczer et al.)
Serial No.: 09/393,579) Art Unit: 1627
Date Filed: 09/09/99) Examiner: Celsa, B.
Title: Protecting Groups for)
Biological Labelling) Date: 03/27/02
Atty. Docket No.: BEH-7410)

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Response and Amendment under §1.116

The Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX AF

Sir:

RESPONSE

In response to the Final Office Action mailed 12/31/01
for which a response is now due please consider the
following amendments and remarks which Applicants submit to
overcome the rejections or present the claims in better form
for appeal.